

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

1 - 15 (Canceled)

16. (New) A thick-film heating device for fluids for mounting in a continuous heating device, comprising at least one thick-film heating element embodied as an electric resistance heater and at least one heat transmission element which is connected in a heat-conducting manner to the thick-film heating element and the fluid so as to transfer the heat generated by the thick-film heating element to the fluid, characterized in that a power control device is provided for initiating a continuous or almost continuous control of the thick-film heating element.
17. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein the power control can be carried out by means of phase-angle or pulse pause modulation.
18. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein the power control device is a thyristor or a triac.
19. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein a cooling device is coupled to the power control device to remove the heat produced during operation of the power control device.
20. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein the cooling device is formed by the heat transmission element and the power control device is arranged on the heat transmission element and is connected thereto in a good heat-conducting manner.

21. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein the heat transmission element is made of a material which has a poor thermal conductivity in the lateral direction, e.g. stainless steel.
22. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein the thick-film heating element has precisely one heating circuit through electrical connection of corresponding heating section.
23. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein the thick-film heating element is formed from a material having a positive temperature characteristic (PTC).
24. (New) The thick-film heating device according to claim 16, wherein there is provided a contacting device disposed on the heat transmission element which is electrically connected to the electrical elements of the thick-film heating device.
25. (New) A continuous heating device comprising a thick-film heating device and a moulded part connected positively thereto in a pressure-resistant and thermally stable manner to form a fluid chamber, wherein the moulded part has at least one inlet and at least one outlet.
26. (New) A household appliance, especially a dishwasher or a washing machine, including an item handling means for handling items and a thick-film heater for supplying heat relative to the items being handled, the thick-film heater for mounting in a continuous heating device and including at least one thick-film heating element embodied as an electric resistance heater and at least one heat transmission element which is connected in a heat-conducting manner to the thick-film heating element and the fluid so as to transfer the heat generated by the thick-film heating element to the fluid, characterized in that a power control

device is provided for initiating a continuous or almost continuous control of the thick-film heating element.

27. (New) The household appliance according to claim 26 and further comprising a continuous heating device disposed in the household appliance.
28. (New) The household appliance according to claim 26 and further comprising a cooling device coupled to the power control device to remove heat produced during operation of the power control device.
29. (New) The household appliance according to claim 28, wherein the cooling device is formed by the heat transmission element and the power control device is arranged on the heat transmission element and is connected thereto in a heat-conducting manner.
30. (New) The household appliance according to claim 29, wherein the power control can be carried out by means of phase-angle or pulse pause modulation and the power control device is a thyristor or a triac.